

## Our record against Samper Pizano

**1978:** Lyndon LaRouche commissions the publication of the book *Dope, Inc.*, in which Samper Pizano is labelled as Colombia's leading drug legalization lobbyist, who collaborated with the likes of President Jimmy Carter's drug adviser Dr. Peter Bourne, before the latter got kicked out of his post for illegally dispensing prescriptions to staff members. In the 1985 edition of *Dope, Inc.*, also published in Spanish as *Narcotráfico S.A.*, Samper is described as the man who funnelled cartel money into the López Michelsen presidential campaign in 1982. Both of Samper's mentors, Alfonso López Michelsen and his banker cousin Jaime Michelsen Uribe, are described by the book as key figures in Colombia's branch of "Dope, Inc."

**July 1979:** *EIR* publishes an interview with Samper Pizano, made available by a news source in New York, in which Samper not only describes his own proposals for the bilateral (U.S.-Colombian) legalization of marijuana, but discusses his organizing efforts to win support within the Carter administration and, he hoped, a subsequent Edward Kennedy administration. Samper asserted that campaigning for legalization as a presidential candidate is not prudent, but that "when

the election passes, legalization goes up."

**September 1984:** *EIR* publishes a Special Report entitled "Narco-Terrorism in Ibero-America," which describes Samper Pizano as the "Colombian contact man for the U.S. dope lobby."

**April 1991:** *EIR* publishes another Special Report, "Bush's Surrender to Dope, Inc.: How U.S. Policy Is Destroying Colombia." It asks why a Sept. 29, 1980 "blacklist" drawn up by the U.S. State Department against granting entrance visas to Colombians suspected of links to the dope trade, never included López Michelsen and Samper Pizano, given their public record of collaboration with the drug cartels.

**June 1991:** *EIR* publishes excerpts from an exclusive interview with Samper Pizano, at the time development minister under President César Gaviria, in which he acknowledges that he is closely coordinating his country's free-trade policies with George Bush's "Enterprise for the Americas" initiative, which was specifically designed to attract foreign capital to participating countries by, among other things, establishing financial centers with flexible regulations, such as those created in Panama and various Caribbean islands to launder dirty money.

Asked what message Samper had for those pro-legalization individuals and foundations in the United States "who had great hopes that you, in the government, would do something for their cause," Samper cryptically responded: "Well, ask me that question when I leave the ministry." Samper left the ministry in early 1992, to pave the way for his presidential bid.



*Ernesto Samper Pizano in New York in 1979, where he spilled the beans to a journalist on his strategy of legalizing drugs. EIR's 1985 edition of Dope, Inc. and its Spanish-language version, Narcotráfico S.A., pinpointed Samper as one of the key figures in Colombia's branch of Dope, Inc.*

